

Kate drives 'em wild

babe puts on M-way show

il Boucher

that gorgeous Kate Price – would have NO problems getting what he wanted one.

Jokes would give their right tit a fair portion of their sister's stunning curves resting in at beside them.

isode of When Jordan Met otherwise, as the 26-year-old is y when her new Ferrari breaks 25 (in the picture, right).

in stay in the car and wait for struts along the hard shoulder – miniskirt and skin-tight top. Nobody stops to help!

the model mum calls lover Jordan with a cry of, "I don't want yet: I haven't done my Westlife hat Kate is finally saved.

he dramatic rescue is just one t in a roller-coaster day that ace around a go-kart course e her Ferrari on a racetrack. mes home to find that Peter,



31, has covered the outside walls of her house in pink fairy lights – as a Christmas treat.

But then in Jordan's world nothing is very normal. The series, which is soon to have an extended weekly run on ITV2, has already

shown the lovers travel to hotspots such as the Maldives, Caribbean and Cyprus.

Kate also famously tucked into some fish eyes on ITV1's I'm A Celebrity and recently managed to build a swimming pool and play area for disadvantaged kids in her home town of Brighton.

Rumour has it that Mr Nasty Simon Cowell, 45, has also asked the beautiful babe to become a judge on the next series of X Factor.

A source close to Cowell, 45, confides: "Jordan would add some extra glamour to the competition and I'm sure her fans would tune in to watch her.

"She'll be great and has definitely got The X Factor."

So if you like to belt out some classics while charging down the M25 you may have missed your chance of stardom – and a close-up view of a national treasure.

Unlucky boys!

● **Catch When** Jordan met Peter on ITV1 to-night, 11pm.



BRA-VO PERFORMANCE: Kate's most famous assets are covered courtesy of www.figleaves.com, with knickers from Ann Summers. Her belt and bracelet are both from Accessories Plus.

Pictures: CAN Associates Ltd

Just Jane

JANE O'GORMAN SOLVES YOUR PROBLEMS TODAY AND EVERY DAY

I wanna leave him for bi pal

AFTER months of nagging, my boyfriend finally persuaded me to arrange a threesome between us and my mate.

This friend is openly bisexual and has never made a secret of fancying my boyfriend and me.

I invited her round to our flat and as I poured the first glass of wine she tenderly stroked my hair and told me that I looked gorgeous.

Just then my boyfriend walked in and popped a horny video into the machine.

I felt extremely nervous and drank greedily, but as the wine began to do its stuff I gradually lost my inhibitions.

My fella asked us to sit on the sofa while he stripped off for us.

Then it was my mate's turn. She performed a slow, sensual strip and encouraged me to take off her G-string.

By the time that I was naked too, I was feeling extremely horny - for her.

Touched

All three of us made our way to the bedroom where we kissed, touched and loved for hours. But if I'm completely honest, it was my mate who did it for me the most.

She really turned me on and gave me the most powerful orgasm I've ever experienced.

I've not stopped thinking about her ever since.

How do I begin to tell my boyfriend that he's out and she's in?

JANE SAYS: Sexual threesomes may seem exciting and thrilling.

But inevitably, there are complications with someone getting hurt.

In this case, it looks like your boyfriend is the odd one out.

He may have been the one to instigate your sex game, but he's now surplus to requirements.

All you can do is be honest with him.

Explain that your feelings for him have changed and that you'd prefer to spend more time with your friend.

Be prepared for the fact that he'll be shocked and angry, but what other choice do you have?

It might be tempting to carry on with your friend behind his back, but that wouldn't be fair.

TWO weeks ago I published this letter from a reader:

MY 13-year-old daughter has come under the influence of a much older girl.

Suddenly she's sulky and rude and I don't know where she is from one minute to the next. Her new best friend is 19 and a tough cookie. But she didn't come home the other night and money has started going missing.

Here are some of your replies:

TWO years ago my daughter started dating an unsuitable boy, but I didn't interfere. One day a neighbour told me that my daughter was taking drugs. Later I found out she was working as a prostitute.

Now I have no idea where she is. Every day I blame myself for not being stronger and saving her.

NAME WITHHELD

RIGHT TO REPLY



MY middle daughter was very badly bullied at school. An older girl continually picked on her and forced her to steal money.

As soon as I realised what was going on, I was down on that school like a ton of bricks. I suggest that if your reader wants to help her daughter, she needs to get tough.

Mrs DENISE JONES, Wolverhampton.

YOUR reader must show her daughter that she is in charge. She's got to man-mark her every

inch of the way and let her know that she is loved and cherished. That's what I did when my daughter started playing up - and it worked.

DANNY HILL, Cumbria. NOW for this week's problem. Send your advice to the address at the foot of the page. Your letters will be printed in two weeks' time.

PEOPLE have told me my best mate calls me her "fat friend". She only hangs around with me because I make her look gorgeous.

Apparently my "fat arse" and "triple chins" (her words) mean that I'm no threat. She's Lisa Snowdon to my Lisa Riley.

I feel so hurt and humiliated, especially as she's always so nice to me. When we're together she's always suggesting new hairstyles and outfits - I couldn't bear to think that she's been using me.

My mum's just mad for men

MY mum is a tart. Suddenly she's shagging anything with a pulse.

She's 50 and her current lover is a 26-year-old brickie.

He's gorgeous and very committed to her, but she thinks nothing of cheating on him with guys of all ages.

She regularly goes out on the pull with her "Saga-lager" mates and rarely comes home empty-handed. I've seen everything from a grey-

haired grandad to a bling-bling fly boy come down our stairs recently.

The other night I walked in the front room and actually caught her giving a guy a blow job.

Begging

I've absolutely no idea who he was and haven't seen him again.

I keep begging her to be careful. She just laughs and says, "I'm hardly going to get pregnant at my age, am I love?" I'm worried that she's

out of control. Since my Dad left her for a younger woman, she's been determined to live life to the full.

She's dyed her hair, taken to wearing high heels and staying out late.

But surely I'm not alone in thinking older people can get sexually transmitted infections too?

JANE SAYS: I'm afraid that age is no protection against STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections). If your mum is having promiscuous, unprotected sex, then she's just as likely to catch anything from herpes to HIV as a younger person.

And STIs among older people are on the increase. I know that you've already tried talking to her, but do try again.

Warn her that infected men don't come with a label. The most upright and wholesome man can be a carrier.

Suggest that she checks out playingsafely.co.uk or calls the Sexual Health Line on 0800 567 123 for information on condoms and safer sex.

Obviously it is difficult for you to preach to your mother about morals, but she really does need to rethink her dangerous lifestyle.

SELFISH GROOM

MY boyfriend and I are supposed to be getting married next September, but he's quibbling about every penny I spend.

I want a big do with all the trimmings. He wants everything to be as low-key as possible. I want a flash meal, eight bridesmaids and a horse-drawn carriage. He wants the church hall and a pay bar.

Yet when it comes to his stag night he's pushing the boat out. Instead of the usual pub crawl or weekend in Blackpool, he's planning a week of water sports with his single mates in Thailand. The stag bash will be more expensive than our honeymoon.

But there's no arguing with him. He

says that he's entitled to his final fling, and he's going to have it.

JANE SAYS: I suspect that your boyfriend isn't quite ready to give up his bachelorhood quite yet. The fact that he's selfishly putting his own enjoyment before your wedding is very worrying.

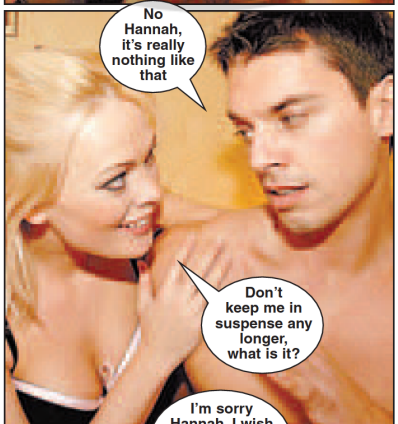
Insist on a heart-to-heart and find out where his priorities really lie. If he's not totally committed to the idea of marriage and completely ready for the responsibility, perhaps you'd be better off postponing things.

A stag do in Blackpool is one thing, but one in Thailand is a whole new box of ping pong balls.

WE BROKE UP BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Day Five

HANNAH IS WAITING FOR JAMES'S EXPLANATION



CONTINUES TOMORROW



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0905 062 2186: I'm So Lonely

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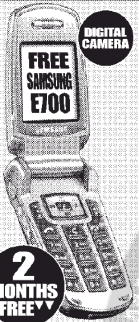
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AL MURRAY SERVES UP SOME FESTIVE ADVICE ALONG

The Pub Landlord's SURVIVAL



POTTER POTTY: Have a drink when the ginger kid pulls that face...

CHRISTMAS is a time for tradition. So who better to offer advice on how to have a great British knees-up than our favourite comedy pub landlord and Hell's Kitchen star, Al Murray.

The ranting publican is straight out of the old school and reckons the old ways are the best.

And as with all pub landlords, it's his gaff, so they're his rules. You have been warned... cheers!

GETTING WASTED
The landlord says: Christmas is a time for all the family so the best thing to get through it is to make sure you get a skinful.

Mind you, it's all about pacing yourself. Christmas and New Year are a marathon, not a sprint. None of us want to be the Paula Radcliffe of booze and drop out before New Year's Eve.

FESTIVE TIPPLES
The landlord says: Make sure you drink the correct drinks - pint for the fella, glass of white wine/fruit-based drink for the lady, though mulled wine is allowed for the gentleman on the grounds of its seasonal nature. And it's virtually soft anyway.

DRINKING AND DRIVING
The landlord says: Don't drink and drive. The best way to ensure you don't drink and drive is to get the lady in your life pregnant, that way she has to drive. And if that isn't the best argument you've heard for knocking up your girlfriend, lads, I don't know what is.

PACING YOURSELF
The landlord says: On Christmas Day the important thing is to drink just enough so you can nap through the Queen's Speech, then get your second wind and coast through EastEnders as best you can. Go for it in the evening and when the Harry Potter film comes on play the drinking game.

Every time that ginger lad pulls that squiffy face of his you have to take a drink, and drink a full pint down when they realise that Voldemort is the bad guy.

HOW TO ROMANCE A LADY OVER CHRISTMAS

The landlord says: For the single fella Christmas can be a trying time, but the good Lord gave us mistletoe so the ugly could experience love and/or a



ON THE PULL: At Christmas, if you don't ask you don't get

fumble at the very least. Women are complex, but if you compliment them on their hair you're off to a terrific start.

CHRISTMAS CHAT-UP LINES
The landlord says: "I like your hair" is as good a place as any to start. I have a drinker called Jim who swears by the one in 10 rule.

He reckons if you're direct with the ladies and tell them exactly what you're after, then one in 10 will succumb. Of course the other nine think you're a charmless tw*t.

CONVERSATION OVER THE DINNER TABLE

The landlord says: At Christmas you should talk about the birth of Jesus and how marvellous it was



TIPPLE: Wine for ladies

that Christ came in December or else there'd be nothing to look forward to in the winter. And if you've pulled it's probably not best to go on about it in front of the wife.

QUEEN'S SPEECH
The landlord says: The Queen's Speech is a mar-

vellous institution. It's my prediction she'll go on about the Commonwealth and our brave boys and girls, and then return to her dinner of swan with all the trimmings.

CHRISTMAS RECORDS
The landlord says: There is a place called Christmas Island where it is Christmas every day. Someone tell Wizzard and they can knock it off.

HOW A PUNTER SHOULD TREAT HIS PUB LANDLORD AT CHRISTMAS

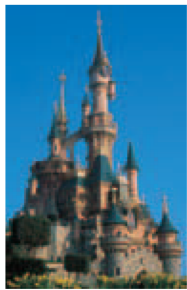
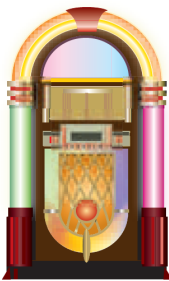
The landlord says: Your publican doesn't have Christmas like you punters, because he is your Christmas. So treat him with respect and please take your glasses back to the bar. Cheers!

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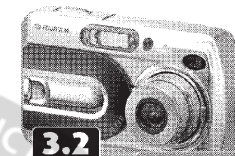
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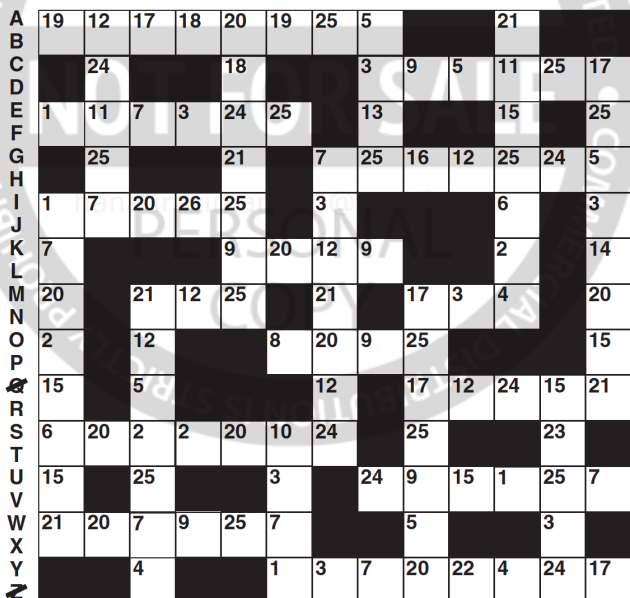
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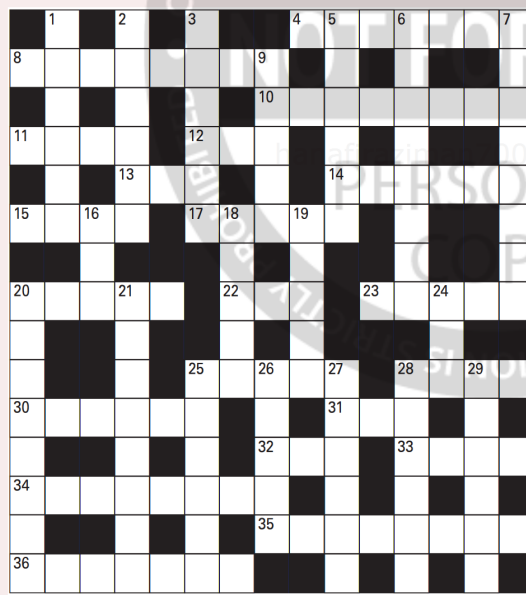
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Jolly Mixtures

Each clue is an anagram of the answer. But be careful - sometimes there is more than one possible solution, and some solutions may be proper names. You have to decide which is the correct one.

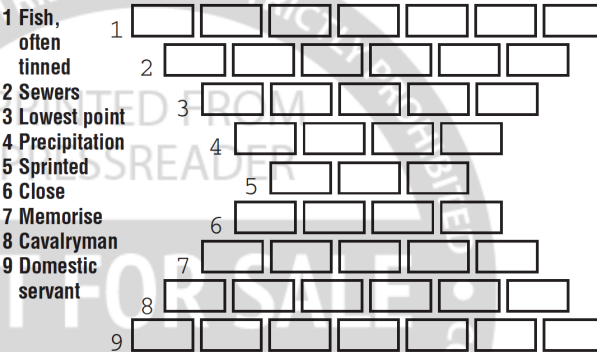
ACROSS
4 TEA-BARS
8 BLEATING
10 SAUCIEST
11 LEAF
12 ATE
13 SIT
14 TINSEL
15 LAIR
17 TRIED
20 BREAK
22 GAS
23 ROPES
25 THERE
28 BULB
30 ENGLUT
31 ARE
32 TOR
33 DIVA
34 PALMETTE
35 NEMATOID
36 IRONIES



DOWN
1 CELLAR
2 ANGLIA
3 STABLE
5 RIBBED
6 COLLAPSE
7 ITERATES
9 STEER
16 KIN
18 STEIN
19 AGLEE
20 BERTHING
21 HAPPIEST
24 LOW
25 SEANCE
26 REHID
27 METIER
28 BINARY
29 AUNTIE

BRICK TRICK

Enter the answers to the clues in the bricks in the wall. Every word is an anagram of its neighbours, plus or minus a letter.



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

PATHFINDER

Algebra, calculus, logarithm, prime number, parallelogram, simultaneous equation, pi, Pythagoras' theorem, geometry, trapezium, factorial, parabola.

WORD LADDER

WORD, WORE, FARE, HARE, HALE, TALE, HAIR, FAIR, FAIL, BAIL, BALL, BALD, BAND.

SO COMPLETE

1 Friends 2 Mister Ed
3 Bewitched 4 Happy Days
5 Mork and Mindy
6 The Golden Girls.

TODAY'S ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S

Two-way Teaser

Call 0905 072 3267 for today's solution
Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT land line

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
3 Signal with two flags - same can go wrong with four; it's said (9)
7 A field crop you find on floor of wood (5)
8 Block for a forger (5)
9 But prank is mistaken with no money! (8)
10 Longing is fading away (5)
13 Bird, dog or horse (3)
15 Complaint of a game-bird (6)
16 A lamp's used for analysis of blood part (6)
17 Big match is a very close one (3)
19 Large animal wants field grass? No, we are told! (5)
23 He should bring improvements for viewers (8)
24 Making it at party gets you a bit drunk (5)
25 Bird could be spread on the ground (5)

- 26 President Jimmy, embodying writer and craftsman (9)

DOWN

- 1 Fast food for German but not from Frankfurt? (9)
2 It's certain to jump! (5)
3 Poles are used in trap (5)
4 See me swallowing a cooked pig or bird (6)
5 Useful fellow, a DIY expert (8)
6 Sounds like shower, as a rule (5)
11 Cover for something that breaks down (9)
12 Athlete on top as silver medalist? (6-2)
13 It's fixed for collection (3)
14 A training to copy (3)

- 18 Effect of one MP on law (6)
20 He will tangle with any wild beast (5)
21 Sporty fellow who goes under in his job? (5)
22 Some painting expected to have bit of colour (5)

QUICK CLUES

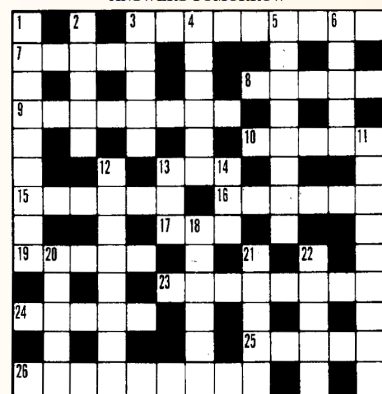
- ACROSS**
3 Signalling with flags (9)
7 Fruit of the oak (5)
8 Blacksmith's block (5)
9 Financially ruined, insolvent (8)
10 Passing away (5)
13 Large area of water (3)
15 Gamebird (6)
16 Fluid portion of blood (6)

- 17 Neckwear (3)
19 Large African animal (5)
23 Person who sells spectacles (8)
24 Slightly drunk (5)
25 National emblem of the US (5)
26 A person skilled in woodwork (9)

DOWN

- 1 Minced beef in a roll (9)
2 Tied up (5)
3 A trap (5)
4 Black and white bird (6)
5 Person skilled at DIY (8)
6 Monarch's rule (5)
11 Warrant (9)
12 Person second in competition (6-2)
13 Television receiver (3)
14 Mimic (3)
18 Moment of collision (6)
20 Wild dog-like animal (5)
21 Person who works underwater (5)
22 Hint of colour (5)

Two sets of clues, but the answers are the same
ANSWERS TOMORROW



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ALAN FRANK'S

back
ROW

The Prince of Darkness is in Iraq

UK TOP 10

- (1) THE INCREDIBLES £4,187,280
- (2) BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON £1,696,588
- (-) CHRISTMAS WITH THE CRANKS £777,771
- (3) THE FORGOTTEN £496,985
- (4) THE GRUDGE £227,442
- (6) THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE £170,751
- (-) CHURCHILL: THE HOLLYWOOD YEARS £148,3269
- (-) THE MERCHANT OF VENICE £147,709
- (5) AFTER THE SUNSET £139,963
- (8) VEER ZAARA £135,390

US TOP 10

- (1) NATIONAL TREASURE \$17,004,967
- (3) CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS \$11,163,492
- (4) THE POLAR EXPRESS \$10,778,094
- (2) THE INCREDIBLES \$9,015,796
- (-) CLOSER \$7,707,972
- (5) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS \$7,655,872
- (6) ALEXANDER \$4,756,445
- (-) FINDING NEVERLAND \$2,824,222
- (7) BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON \$2,761,455
- (9) RAY \$1,888,860

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COMING SOON

NEXT WEEK: Harry Potter will have a rival when the best-selling children's fantasy about three orphans who are facing dastardly deeds, Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, arrives with Jim Carrey...

THE WEEK AFTER: Leonardo DiCaprio deserves to win the Best Actor Oscar for his portrait of Hollywood pioneer, filer and legendary lover Howard Hughes in The Aviator...

TOP 10

- (2) SPIDER-MAN 2
- (1) HARRY POTTER and the PRISONER OF AZKABAN
- (3) TROY
- (4) ELF
- (5) THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
- (6) FAHRENHEIT 9/11
- (-) 13 GOING ON 30
- (10) AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
- (9) SHREK 2
- (-) QUICKSAND

A BITE OF ALL RIGHT

WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION: Snipes on the hunt for Dracula



BLADE: TRINITY (15)
DRAC'S back and biting mad in a superior shocker that's just the ticket for everyone with a taste for terror – except for Tony Blair after the humiliation he's suffered because they couldn't find WMDs in Iraq.

It's Blair's bad luck that the desperate hunt for weapons of mass destruction missed the most dangerous WMD of them all, Wicked Monster Dracula. He's asleep in darkest Iraq waiting to embark a new reign of bloody terror. But it's mankind's good luck that when modern blood drinkers unleash Dracula, Wesley Snipes is there as sword-wielding slice-and-dice vampire slayer Blade to kick vampire ass.

Even though the FBI, vicious vampires and all-powerful Dracula – who can now walk in daylight without burning to a crisp – are all out for his blood, Snipes is still there to save the day, with a little help from Nightstalkers Jessica Biel and Ryan Reynolds.

Cracking

Writer-director David S Goyer starts the show off with a bang, with the first 10 minutes containing more blazing action than a whole Indiana Jones movie. He never lets the chills and thrills peter out or allows the cracking pace to slow – all the way to the sword-slashing climax when Snipes and Dracula fight to the death, man to monster.

While there's even more of the first two hit films' fangs-and-fighting formula, Trinity, with its super-cool hero played to the max by Snipes, happily has its tongue firmly in its bloody cheek and doesn't take itself too seriously.

Biel fires a crossbow with an accuracy that would make King Arthur's Keira Knightley green with envy, Reynolds is a hunky human hero and Parker Posey is a hoot as a vampire with the silliest hairdo since Bruce's TV toupee. If you fancy a riot of shocks and stunts it's perfect for you.

VERDICT: 10/10

Fine state of affairs

GARDEN STATE (15)

ZACH Braff, the daffy doctor from the TV sitcom Scrubs, scores gold as writer and director of this oddball romantic comedy.

He hits the bull as a small-time Hollywood actor who comes home to New Jersey for his mother's funeral.

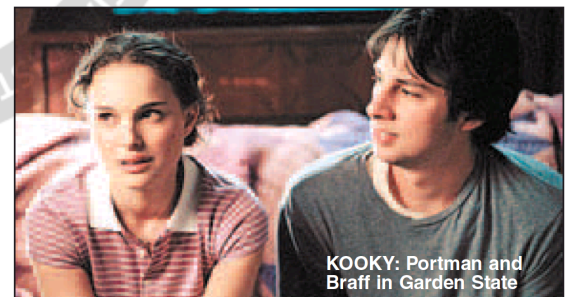
He also scores romancing kooky, congenital liar Nathalie Portman – in her best performance. He meets her while a blind woman's guide-dog bonks his leg in a waiting room. (Strangely, David Blunkett isn't credited as the pet's trainer).

The blend of off-the-wall characters, like the man breakfasting in armour, frequently surreal situations and wild dialogue adds up to an unusual, enjoyable comedy.

VERDICT: 7/10

LOS ANGELES PLAYS ITSELF (PG)

THIS consistently-fascinating documentary tells the story of L.A., easily the world's most-filmed city, through a compelling collection of feature



KOOKY: Portman and Braff in Garden State

film clips. And while it's long it's never boring and it's a rare treat, especially for movie buffs.

VERDICT: 8/10

MONDOVINO (PG)

FILMMAKER Jonathan Nossiter's

cynical look at the wide, wide world of wine growers and wine marketing cheerfully exposes serious drinkers and snobs but – and I didn't drink before it – his ever-bobbing camera gave me a hangover.

VERDICT: 6/10

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while an old regular haunts the opera house

SLOWLY DOES IT: Emmy Rossum and Gerard Butler. Right, the movie looks stunning, as does Jennifer Ellison, who co-stars



PHANTOM FALLS FLAT

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (12A) MORE than 70 million people have seen Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit musical on stage.

And now millions more can enjoy it as the movie hits the big screen in spectacular style, dressed to the nines in Oscar-worthy settings and costumes.

It's the frequently-filmed story of the evil Phantom who stalks the Paris Opera House, killing anyone who stands in the way of his beautiful singing protegee Christine, played here by Emmy Rossum in a great star-making performance.

Lloyd Webber and director Joel Schumacher adapted the show for the screen and the trouble is that they have conspired to make a film that's often snail-slow and over-

stuffed with Lloyd Webber's (for me) trite tunes.

Gerard Butler's Phantom lacks charisma and isn't really all that scary. Miranda Richardson acquires herself well as the only actor with a French accent and Simon Callow and Claran Hinds are good value as a comedy duo.

And then there's Minnie Driver (whose singing is doubted but whose acting, sadly, isn't) chewing the scenery to shreds as an irritatingly OTT operatic Diva. I blame the Phantom who tries to dispose of her early on but muffs the job.

Still, there's much to admire in the stunning settings in, and under, the Opera House and fans of the stage show will doubtless have a ball.

VERDICT 5/10



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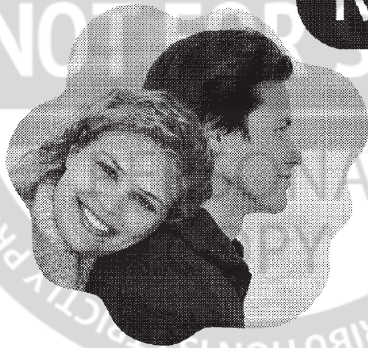


VIDEO EXTRA PAGE 51

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VIDEO EXTRA

WIN awesome Spidey prizes

SPIDEY'S back in the most eagerly-anticipated superhero release of the year.

Spider-Man 2 is the blockbusting follow-up to the comic-book legend's first big-screen outing.

Tobey Maguire returns in the famous red-and-blue outfit as Peter Parker - aka Spider-Man.

Joining him is the Hollywood honey Kirsten Dunst, who is back as love-interest Mary Jane Watson.

Meanwhile Brit star Alfred Molina offers up a blistering performance as Spider-Man's new nemesis, the evil Dr Otto Octavius - or Doc Ock, as he's better known.

Struggle

The thrills and spills continue as mild-mannered Peter struggles to juggle his dual life as college student and world superhero.

Two years have passed since he walked away from his beloved Mary Jane and faced up to the responsibility of being Spider-Man.

But our hero faces new challenges as he

by SAM PARKER

struggles with the gift and curse of his superpower. His greatest challenge comes from his formidable foe Dr Ock, whose limbs can move at speeds of 90 feet per second and whose powerful tentacles enable him to pulverise bricks and claw through concrete walls.

With awe-inspiring special effects, a top-notch cast and fast-paced plot, Spider-Man 2 offers

up family entertainment to keep you on the edge of your seat.

To celebrate the home release of Spider-Man 2, we've got a DVD player and 10 DVDs to give away.

Simply answer this question: In the movie, what is the name of the mild-mannered student who is Spider-Man's alter ego?

Enter by calling our hotline, 0905 072 3233, or text FILM followed by a space, give your answer, name and address, and send to 83426.

Calls cost 75p a minute from a BT landline and should last no longer than two minutes.

Texts cost £1, plus your usual network rate. Usual Daily Star contest rules apply.

WIN: A super Sony DVD player



GRIPPING STUFF: Win a Spider-Man 2 DVD in our easy-to-enter competition



ALAN FRANK'S VIDEO VIEW

TOP TIP

THE RETURN OF THE KING: SPECIAL EXTENDED EDITION (12) (Entertainment DVD/VHS)

NOW with fascinating extra footage, this movie brings Peter Jackson's magnificent Lord of the Rings trilogy to a triumphant end.

Everyone with a sense of wonder - and they will include even Christopher Lee, whose wicked wizard Saruman was cut when the final film was released in cinemas - cannot fail to be enthralled.

Jackson kicks off where The Two Towers ended as brave Hobbits Frodo and Sam face danger and betrayal from vengeful Gollum on their mission to destroy the One Ring.

The King was deservedly crowned with 11 Oscars, including Best Film and Best Director for Jackson, and I guarantee you'll love it too.

VERDICT: 10/10

BEST OF THE REST

THE ARKOFF FILM LIBRARY PRESENTS - CLASSIC HORROR (15) (Direct Video DVD) IN the long missed days of the double feature - when you saw two films for the price of one - lively shockers were the pick of the B movie bunch.

Here's your chance to see five schlock classics and thrill to everything from killer space aliens to the undead.

Legendary director Roger Corman's zesty Day The World Ended finds nuclear war survivors battling mutants, while his chiller The Undead is a scary time travel story. The She Creature turns up and turns nasty when a hypnotist puts

sexy Marla English under and she goes back to her prehistoric days.

And Marla returns, still creating merry hell after an experiment goes wrong in Voodoo Woman, while the babes behind bars in Reform School Girls behave every bit as badly.

VERDICT: 8/10

FAMILY CHOICE

13 GOING ON 30 (12)

IF you recall Big, you'll know what to expect when 13-year-old Christa B Allen is sprinkled with magic dust in 1987 and wakes up in 2004 as 30-year-old Manhattan magazine editor Jennifer Garner.

Allen's wish to be "30, flirty and thriving" has come true in this pleasant fantasy. And its most fantastic element is that Garner, who's still 13 inside, turns out to be a publishing genius.

The silly show goes down easily enough and TV star Garner is lovely and has charm to spare, although sometimes you strain to believe in her character - notably when she finds that she's been having an affair with a married man.

VERDICT: 6/10

BEST BUY

ULTIMATE MATRIX COLLECTION (15) (WARNER DVD (10 discs) £59.99)

YOU'LL believe Keanu Reeves can fly when you see him do the business in the definitive version of the mega-million dollar action fantasy.

Not only do you get all three classics in the trilogy together, you also get the fascinating The Matrix Revisited and the bestselling The Animatrix as well.

And for extra value, there are five new DVDs filled to the brim with all aspects of the unique Matrix universe.

VERDICT: 9/10

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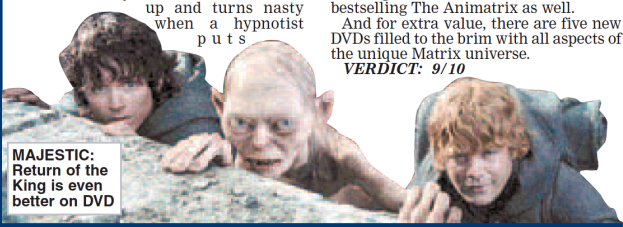
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TV GUIDE

BBC ONE
BBC TWO
4
five
itv1 LONDON

- 6.00 BREAKFAST** (T) 91944478. 9.15 Moneyspinners (T) 2673756. **10.00** Homes Under The Hammer (T) 77958. **11.00** Houses Behaving Badly (Rpt) (T) 8942. **11.30** Cash In The Attic (Rpt) (T) 4800923.
- 12.15 EUROPEAN NIGHTMARE** Dominic Littlewood presents a series that reveals the harsh realities of buying a property in the sun. In France, a family's swimming pool is flawed (T) 2274294.
- 1.00 BBC NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 88010.
- 1.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 72940923.
- 1.40 NEIGHBOURS** See 5.35pm for programme details (T) 32048010.
- 2.05 DOCTORS** Faith realises that all is not as it seems when she helps a woman look for her missing husband. Jack makes Helen an offer. Ronnie plans a romantic evening in (T) 98873855.
- 2.35 MURDER, SHE WROTE** Jessica Fletcher uses her mystery writer's instincts to investigate when the heir to a fortune appears after a 20-year absence (Rpt) (T) 2673768.
- 3.20 BBC NEWS, REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 8116855.
- 3.25 CBEEBIES: NICOLE'S FURRY FRIENDS FRIDAY: BINKA** (Rpt) (T) 8106478. **3.35** The Koala Brothers (Rpt) (T) 9290045. **3.45** CBBC: Mona The Vampire (Rpt) (T) 5930861. **4.10** What's New Scooby-Doo? The intrepid investigators take on an aquatic case (Rpt) (T) 8393749. **4.30** The Basil Brush Show. Dave's pet sitting service is in trouble when the landlord's dog goes missing (T) 132.
- 5.00 BLUE PETER** Live from the National Cat Club Show in Olympia where the Blue Peter kitten Smudge will be making a guest appearance. (T) 6600213.
- 5.25 NEWSROUND** Topical news magazine for children (T) 9068818.
- 5.35 NEIGHBOURS** Sky breaks up with Boyd after Lana's secret is exposed. Stingray acts to save Boyd from making a big mistake. Max struggles with Steph's IVF treatment (Rpt) (T) 382756.
- 6.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 497.
- 6.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 749.
- 7.00 A QUESTION OF SPORT** Sue Barker asks the questions in the popular sports quiz, with captains Matt Dawson and Ally McCoist. (T) 2923.
- 7.30 TOP OF THE POPS** The best of the week's Top 20 chart, live bands and the No 1 single (T) 861.
- 8.00 EASTENDERS** Zoe tries to track down Dennis. Jane saves the twins' birthday, while Little Mo and Billy struggle to rescue their relationship (T) 1671.
- 8.30 MY DAD'S THE PRIME MINISTER** The PM's wife is spending more time with her family but her family are desperate to get her back to work (T) 7478.
- 9.00 HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU** Comedy quiz show that grills celebrity contestants on the week's news. Team captains are Ian Hislop and Paul Merton (T) 5478.
- 9.30 LITTLE BRITAIN** Matt Lucas and David Walliams take a comic look at life in Britain. Also featuring Anthony Head, Geraldine James and Vincent Marzello (T) 62923.
- 10.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 22861.
- 10.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 258107.
- 10.35 FRIDAY NIGHT WITH JONATHAN ROSS** A mix of music and celebrity chat with Jonathan Ross. Guests are Sex And The City star Kim Cattrall, Irish comedian Dara O'Brian and Bruce Forsyth. Music from Kings Of Leon (T) 347855.
- 11.35 FILM: THE WRAITH** (1986) (See Guide) 455584.
- 11.00-6.00 BBC NEWS** 24 54379817.

- 6.00 CBBC** (T) 48792. **8.00** CBeebies (T) 2995584. **12.00** Film: Come Clean (1931) (See Guide) 9884300. **12.20** Trade Secrets (Rpt) (T) 3065768. **12.30** Working Lunch 91652.
- 1.30 FILM: THE RETURN OF FRANK JAMES** (1940) (See Guide) 50768. **3.00** One Man And His Geese (T) 8584. **3.30** Flog It! (T) 34855. **4.30** Ready Steady Cook (Rpt) (T) 3380300. **5.15** Weakest Link (T) 7370923. **6.00** Beg, Borrow Or Steal (T) 869. **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing: It Takes Two (T) 519. **7.00** HeadJam (T) 8215.
- 7.30 FIGHTING TALK** Former sports anchorman Dickie Davies guests (T) 403.
- 8.00 GARDENER OF THE YEAR 2004** Five intrepid, amateur gardeners battle against time and the elements for the title of BBC Gardener Of The Year (T) 5799.



CAPTAIN: Paul, BBC1, 9pm

- 9.00 EMPIRE WARRIORS** This edition focuses on the Mau Mau uprising in Fifties Kenya (T) 6403.
- 10.00 QI** Subjects include Bills, Bens and Buildings (T) 20403.
- 10.30 NEWSNIGHT** (T) 33923.
- 11.00 NEWSNIGHT REVIEW** (T) 475497.
- 11.35 SAM COOKE: LEGEND** Jools Holland narrates a documentary on Sam Cooke (T) 568671.
- 12.35 FILM: THE TERROR** (1963) (See Guide) 2484904. **2.00-6.00** BBC Learning Zone 4363362.

- 6.05 ANIMAL ALPHABET** (Rpt) (T) 9840039. **6.10** The Hoobs (Rpt) (T) 9100720. **6.35** The Hoobs (Rpt) (T) 5886519. **7.00** B4 5457652. **7.25** Friends (Rpt) (T) 5467039. **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond (Rpt) 1691039. **8.25** King Of Queens 5555861. **8.50** Nikki (Rpt) (T) 2937855. **9.15** Film: Auntie Mame (1958) (See Guide) 73036316. **11.50** My Eden (Rpt) (T) 1524126. **12.00** News (T) 41942. **12.30** Cheers (Rpt) (T) 75497. **1.00** Channel 4 Racing (T) 37208010. **3.15** Countdown (T) 4834942. **4.00** A Place In The Sun (T) 8132. **5.00** Richard & Judy (T) 4872. **THE SIMPSONS** (T) 107. **6.30** HOLLYOAKS (T) 687. **7.00** NEWS (T) 216403. **7.45** THE WEST WING (T) 929126. **8.30** FRIENDS (Rpt) (T) 6316. **9.00** SIMPSONS (T) 4316. **9.30** MAX AND PADDY'S ROAD TO NOWHERE (T) 51861.

- 10.00 PEEP SHOW** (T) 336297. **10.35** FATHER TED (Rpt) (T) 801687. **11.05 PUNK'D: BEST BITS** 356213. **11.35 BO' SELECTA!** (Rpt) (T) 889316. **12.10 GROOVE ARMADA: LIVE IN LONDON** 8025508. **12.40** Headliners: Damien Rice (Rpt) 3106332. **1.10** Popworld (Rpt) (T) 7388430. **1.55** Hit40uk 6894072. **2.20** Beattie Boys: Live In Europe 2004 (Rpt) 6944527. **2.50** Jamie Kennedy 3646072. **3.35** World Cup Skiing 214237. **5.20-6.05** Countdown (Rpt) (T) 8144879.

S4C As Channel 4 except: 8.25 King Of Queens 408774. 8.50 Cheers 74659403. 9.20 Third Watch 39747403. 10.10 Dr Quinn 9940890. 11.05 Dr Quinn 68061316. 12.30 Since 12050182. 12.40 Benji 68674872. 4.00 Uned 5 6842923. 5.00 Richard & Judy 6308655. 6.00 Simpsons 7844955. 6.25 Rownd A Rownd 7845294. 6.55 Rownd A Rownd 30757869. 7.25 Newyddion 52745836. 7.55 Calendar Adfetti 40653403. 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm 11930740. 8.25 Eisteddfod Mudiad Ffermyr Ianc Cymru 2004 50706229. 9.30 Father Ted 15479316. 10.00 Simpsons 6837261. 10.30 Max And Paddy 69220381. 11.00 Peep Show 69843652. 11.30 Film: Dr At The Woman 23000. 88463768. 1.50 Punk'd 7872726. 2.20 Made In Britain 29119492. 2.50 Freshports 50191140. 3.15 Brazilian Football 21959459. 5.10-6.15 Close

- 6.00 SUNRISE** 7799923. **6.30** Milkshake! 33682039. **9.25** Wright Stuff 84880652. **10.30** Sunset Beach (Rpt) (T) 2798855. **11.25** House Doctor (Rpt) (T) 19120942. **11.50** Wright Stuff Extra 38168749. **12.00** News (T) 5088346. **12.30** Home And Away (Rpt) (T) 2001565. **1.00 FAMILY AFFAIRS** (Rpt) (T) 3003294. **1.35** BrainTeaser 3012942. **2.35** Blow Out (T) 1148836. **3.35** News Update (T) 97812942.

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8AM TO MIDNIGHT - 7 DAYS A WEEK

- 3.40 FILM: NIGHTMARE IN THE DAYLIGHT** (1992) (See Guide) 1708316. **5.30** News (T) 8763300. **6.00** Home And Away (T) 1913823. **6.30** Family Affairs (T) 7218215. **7.00** News (T) 4082923. **7.30** Tim Marlow's Judgement Day (T) 1818279. **8.00** HOT PROPERTY (Rpt) (T) 4091671. **8.30** HOUSEBUSTERS (T) 4087478. **9.00** HOUSE DOCTOR (T) 48612213. **10.05** FILM: DISCLOSURE (1994) (See Guide) Starring Michael Douglas as Tom Sanders, a victim of sexual harassment 6663855. **12.35** Film: Circle Of Deception (1999) (See Guide) 6156362. **2.10** Film: Midnight Flight (1997) (See Guide) 2147053. **3.45** Short Story Cinema (Rpt) (T) 2920546. **4.20** Postcards (Rpt) (T) 87584966. **4.25** Melrose Place (T) 9562237. **5.10-6.00** Sons And Daughters (T) 8499695.

- 6.00 GMTV** 7743861. **9.25** Trisha. More heartwarming and shocking true stories with Trisha Goddard and a studio audience (T) 7498854. **10.30** This Morning (T) 32923. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News, Weather (T) 77855.
- 1.00 TODAY WITH DES AND MEL** Today's guests are Michael Howard, Ronan Keating and Joe Pasquale (T) 65010.
- 2.00 I WANT THAT LUXURY HOUSE** Series about British families determined to buy a second home abroad. Today, we join Steve and Jenny Smith searching for their dream luxury home in Florida 9403.
- 2.30 WILDLIFE SOS** An adult badger with nasty injuries arrives at the centre. The little owls need a bigger home. The fawns are moved to a country estate. We find out more about bats with expert Frank Greenaway 836.
- 3.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 6188229.
- 3.15 MIFFY AND FRIENDS** (Rpt) (T) 8104010. **3.20** Engie Benjie. People cannot work out why it is raining donuts - until Engie catches Plane flying around and dropping them on everyone (Rpt) (T) 8298403. **3.30** Atomic Betty (T) 381. **4.00** Best Friends. Alice's secret haunts Gemma enough to give her nightmares (T) 316. **4.30** Best Friends. Gemma is determined to prevent Alice from moving to Scotland (T) 300.
- 5.00 COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS** This edition offers a Christmas dinner action plan and ideas for dressing the table in style. With special guest Melinda Messenger (T) 2590.
- 6.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 565.
- 6.30 ITV EVENING NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 395.
- 7.00 EMMERDALE** Simon and Nicola manage to save their Christmas - but Rodney's looks doomed. Cain and Daz burglar Len and Pearl's house. Zak gets busy on Belle's Christmas surprise (T) 9949.
- 7.30 CORONATION STREET** Shelley's treading a treacherous path - but Charlie's one step ahead of her. Tyrone is stopped in his tracks by a sudden revelation. A smug Karen sends Tracy into a blind rage when she leaves her mark on the car (T) 229.
- 8.00 TONIGHT WITH TREVOR MCDONALD** Headline-making investigations and exclusive interviews, with Trevor McDonald and the Tonight team (T) 3039.
- 8.30 A TOUCH OF FROST** Drama series about Detective Inspector Jack Frost, a man who uses some unconventional methods to solve crime. A ruthless kidnapper tests Frost's skills to the full - it proves a tough case to crack and, for one woman, time is running out. Stars David Jason (Rpt) (T) 59039.
- 10.30 ITV NEWS** (T) 37749.
- 11.00 WHEN JORDAN MET PETER** Still reeling from the aftermath of the holiday from hell, Jordan and Peter decide they need time alone for themselves and take Harvey away for a quiet family break (T) 8519.
- 11.30 BIG NIGHT OUT** Up-and-coming fashion designer Jean-Pierre Braganza holds his first ever catwalk show 66300.
- 12.00 LATE NIGHT LADIES** Table dancer Anna-Lisa hopes a new club likes her style 3794362. **12.35** The Frank Skinner Show (Rpt) 648256. **1.40** Film: Star Maps (1997) (See Guide) 1395140. **3.05** Fatboy Slim's Orange Playlist (Rpt) (T) 47773324. **3.30** Entertainment Now! (T) 29630362. **3.55** Mixmasters 29615053. **4.25** Tonight With Trevor McDonald (Rpt) (T) 93092140. **4.45** ITV Nightscreen 7131512. **5.30-6.00** ITV Early Morning News 30527.



MIKE WARD

WHAT'S HOT TO WATCH

MARIA treats the terminally lovesick Tyrone to a thank-you meal in tonight's *Corrie* (ITV1, 7.30pm). But since the guy is clearly still besotted with her, and not exactly making a secret of the fact, it's hardly surprising that the conversation starts to get a bit awkward, forcing Maria to be at her diplomatic best. "I like your tie," she tells him, rather

bafflingly - until you realise that what she's actually just said is: "I like you, Ty." Even so, it's obvious he wants a lot more than just to be liked. Loved, for example. Or laid at the very least. And hey, waddyaknow, he actually ends up getting his wish. The dramatic turning point comes when this Dave bloke - the one for whom Maria stupidly borrowed that 200 quid from

Audrey's safe, triggering this whole sorry state of affairs - suddenly turns up at the flat to pay back the cash. Hugely miffed at this interruption, Tyrone is set to storm out, looking as if he'd quite like to punch out this guy's teeth on the way. But Maria suddenly urges him to stay, crying: "I love you!" She doesn't actually look as if she means it, but what the hell.

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ITV1 MERIDIAN

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** The Grand Tour. A personal grand tour of fascinating places. Breamore House in Hampshire was built five years before the Spanish Armada and it has been home to the Hulse family for 250 years 836. **3.00** Meridian News, Weather 6188229. **6.00** Meridian Tonight 565. **11.30** The Frame. A portrait of artist and musician Geoffrey Robinson from Dorset, whose clients include George Michael and Lord Putnam 66300. **12.00-12.35** Hell For Leather. Jane Omorogbe is strapped into the hot seat to experience banger racing 3794362.

ITV1 WESTCOUNTRY

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Arts And Crafts. Featuring homemade ciders and cheese, unusual walking sticks and a sheep-shearing competition at The Lustleigh Show 836. **3.00** West Country News 6188229. **6.00-6.30** West Country Live 565. **11.30** Alcohol Wars. A look at drink-related incidents with the police, ambulance and A&E services 66300. **12.00-12.35** The Summer Of Love. Series taking a light-hearted look at sex in the West Country. Adult movie star Candice Paris reveals how she and her husband keep work separate from their private lives 3794362.

ITV1 ANGLIA

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Streetcombers. Andy Kane and Roo Ryde meet people who put unwanted furniture outside their houses, and the streetcombers who give them another life. Today, they are in the village of Kenninghall 836. **3.00** Anglia News, Weather 6188229. **6.00** Anglia Tonight. News, features and sport from around the east of England 565. **11.30-12.35** Point Of View. Gritty drama set in Norfolk, starring Tony Scannell, which highlights the tensions surrounding a family-run farm. Followed by a studio discussion exploring the issues 930059.

ITV1 CENTRAL

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Out Of The Fryin' Pan II. Unwary folk spend a surprise evening as a cook at a top restaurant. Showma Sherman is whisked away from work to cook at a converted Thirties cinema, now The Daffodil restaurant 836. **3.00** Central News, Weather, Lifestyle 6188229. **6.00** Central News At Six. Weather. Early evening regional news 565. **11.30-12.35** First Cut. Showcase of fact-based documentaries from first-time film-makers in the Central region. Featuring, The Wedding Patchwork, The Urban Savannah, Empty, Dis Life and Gone To The Dogs 930039.

ITV1 WEST

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Beat The Dealer. Dawn Foster and Christine Jackson buy items at Shepton Mallet 836. (Wales: 2.30 Great Welsh Cafes. Arfon Haines Davies visits Badgers Cafe in Llandudno 836.) **3.00** West/Wales News, Weather 6188229. **6.00** West/Wales News, Weather 565. (Wales: **11.00** Crime Stories. Featuring a case when human bones were found by potholers in a cave 8519.) **11.30** Grave Detectives 66300. (Wales: **11.30** The Guest List 66300.) **12.00-12.35** Bike Gods 3794362. (Wales: **12.00-12.35** When Jordan Met Peter 3794362.)

SKY000

6.00 DR PHIL 23768. **7.00** Zoids 30497. **7.30** Batman 15132. **8.00** Gamezville 74039. **9.00** The X-Files (T) 5735823. **9.55** Buffy The Vampire Slayer (T) 3211861. **10.50** Angel (T) 8774497. **11.45** ER (T) 920126. **12.45** Scrubs (T) 427294. **1.15** The X-Files. When his mother suffers a stroke, Mulder searches for an alien who possesses miraculous healing powers (T) 5688229. **2.10** Dr Phil. Life strategist Dr Phil McGraw answers America's parenting quandaries, from critical mums to wayward children and everything in between 5339774. **3.05** The Sharon Osbourne Show. Sharon's joined by actor DL Hughley 1160565. **4.00** Buffy The Vampire Slayer. Robin gives Buffy a bag of his mother's possessions, including a sealed box containing a puppet show (T) 23584. **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation. When the ship's archaeologist is killed, Worf feels responsible for the son she left behind (T) 2942. **6.00** Malcolm In The Middle. The younger boys try to convince Lois to let them have a mini-bike and Hal attends a father-son weekend at Marlin Academy (T) 8045. **6.30** Futurama. Fry discovers that a small amount of money left in his old bank account has matured into a fortune (T) 6497.



SURVIVAL: Ray, 9pm

- 7.00 THE SIMPSONS**
Facing the prospect of flunking his school's IQ test, Bart switches tests with super-brain Martin Prince (T) 3671.
- 7.30 THE SIMPSONS**
After Springfield wins the title of World's Fattest Town, Marge launches an anti-sugar crusade. With the guest voice of Ben Stiller (T) 5381.
- 8.00 BATTLESTAR GALACTICA**
Starbuck has a crisis of conscience when ordered to torture a Cylon who claims to have planted a bomb 40749.
- 9.00 FILM: NO ESCAPE** (1993)
A soldier is sent to prison in the year 2022 for shooting one of his superiors. With corporations controlling the prison system, a ruthless prison warden has created the ultimate solution for his most troublesome and violent inmates. Thriller, starring Ray Liotta, Kevin Dillon and Lance Henriksen 53213.
- 10.00 EUROMILLIONS DRAW** Live coverage of the draw 166519.
- 10.10 FILM: NO ESCAPE** (1993)
Conclusion of tonight's thriller 8703213.
- 11.20 VERY WORST...** The worst jobs that people have had the misfortune of doing (T) 201229.
- 12.20 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION** (Rpt) (T) 3395430. **1.20** Gamezville. News, reviews, gossip and debate (Rpt) 7082188. **2.15** Angel (Rpt) (T) 3576350. **3.05** ER (Rpt) 14849701. **3.30** Tarzan (Rpt) 9236614. **4.20** Hot Love 65752091. **4.45** The Sharon Osbourne Show 3366985. **5.35-6.00** Kong 6214256.



DOUBLE TROUBLE: Tom and Jason, Sky Movies 1, 8pm

SKY MOVIES 1

6.40 Mel (1999) 39123045 **8.30** The Kid Who Loved Christmas (1990) 39652 **10.30** S1m0ne (2002) 74923 **12.30** End Of The Line (1988) 60774 **2.30** The Clinic (2004) 40830126 **4.15** The Kid Who Loved Christmas (1990) 19258039 **6.00** S1m0ne (2002) Comedy, starring Al Pacino 38958 **8.00** Stealing Harvard (2001) Comedy, starring Tom Green and Jason Lee 25126 **9.30** Dumb And Dumberer: When Harry Met Lloyd (2003) Comedy, starring Eric Christian Olsen 30107 **11.00** Bottle Rocket (1996) Comedy, starring Owen Wilson 930045 **12.35** Big Trouble (2000) 6979053 **2.05** Crooklyn (1994) 192430 **4.05-6.00** Jackie Bouvier Kennedy Onassis (2000) 484169

SKY MOVIES 2

6.25 A Wind At My Back Christmas (2001) 20356652 **8.05** Mr Atlas (1997) 81479861 **9.45** Killer Bees (2002) 85295590 **11.25** Dancing At The Harvest Moon (2001) 51847519 **1.05** A Wind At My Back Christmas (2001) 39663565 **2.45** The Man Who Saved Christmas (2002) 27895039 **4.25** Killer Bees (2002) 71331923 **6.05** Arthur 2: On The Rocks (1988) Comedy, starring Dudley Moore 10440720 **8.00** Bulletproof Monk (2002) Comedy 35861 **10.00** Ghost Ship (2002) Horror 871213 **11.35** Roger Dodger (2003) 478300 **1.25** The Medicine Show (2001) 815053 **3.05** Sorority Boys (2002) 247099 **4.40-6.20** Dancing At The Harvest Moon (2001) 80054782

SKY CINEMA 1

6.00 The Amorous Adventures Of Moll Flanders (1965) 66614584 **8.10** The Virgin Queen (1955) 40094300 **9.50** Twelve O'Clock High (1949) 82629584 **12.05** Tora! Tora! The Giant Awakes 6403300 **1.50** The Amorous Adventures Of Moll Flanders (1965) 35774300 **4.00** The Virgin Queen (1955) 91514381 **5.45** Twelve O'Clock High (1949) 80782126 **8.00** The Mean Machine (1974) Comedy, starring Burt Reynolds 7476584 **10.00** Flesh And Blood (1985) Adventure 64017381 **12.15** The Rutles (1978) Comedy 13470362 **1.40** The Mean Machine (1974) 26664985 **3.45** US Top Ten 2960184 **4.15-6.00** Tora! Tora! Tora! The Giant Awakes 1467527

SKY BOX OFFICE

Today's films on Sky Box Office Digital at various times throughout the day are: Shaun Of The Dead (2004), Gothika (2003), Our House (2003), School Of Rock (2003), Against The Ropes (2004), Cold Mountain (2003), Kill Bill: Vol. 2 (2004), The Lord Of The Rings: Return Of The King (2003), Monster (2003), Starsky And Hutch (2004), Torque (2004), Welcome To Mooseport (2004), Along Came Polly (2004), Bad Boys II (2003), Hidalgo (2004), Mona Lisa Smile (2003), Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004), Barbershop 2: Back In Business (2004), The Calcium Kid (2004), The Missing (2003)

telly movies

STAR RATINGS

*****Don't miss it
****Good ***Average
**Time filler *Garbage!

- ☐ **AUNTIE MAME** (1958) **** C4, 9.15-11.50am. Comedy. Orphan Jan Handlick goes to live with his flamboyant aunt Rosalind Russell when his millionaire father dies. Also starring Forrest Tucker.
- ☐ **THE RETURN OF FRANK JAMES** (1940) *** BBC2, 1.30-3.00pm. Western sequel. Outlaw Henry Fonda vows vengeance when the men who murdered his brother Jesse are freed. Co-starring Gene Tierney and Jackie Cooper.
- ☐ **NIGHTMARE IN THE DAYLIGHT** (TVM, 1992) *** Five, 3.40-5.30pm. Drama. Married Wisconsin teacher Jaclyn Smith is stalked by Los Angeles lawyer Christopher Reeve who thinks she is the wife he lost in an earthquake. Also starring Tom Mason.

- ☐ **DISCLOSURE** (1994) **** Five, 10.05pm-12.35am. Drama. Executive Demi Moore is accused of sexual harassment by former lover Michael Douglas.
- ☐ **THE WRAITH** (1986) *** BBC1, 11.35pm-1.10am. Action shocker. High school hero Charlie Sheen comes back from the dead to take bloody revenge against the gang who killed him.
- ☐ **CIRCLE OF DECEPTION** (1999) *** Five, 12.35-2.10am. Thriller. A young woman finds her life is being destroyed after she invites a friend who turns out to be a dangerous psychopath to stay.
- ☐ **THE TERROR** (1963) *** BBC2, 12.35-2.00am. Cult shocker. Lost soldier Jack Nicholson follows Sandra Knight to a strange castle owned by even stranger Baron Boris Karloff.
- ☐ **STAR MAPS** (1997) **** ITV1, 1.40-3.05am. Drama. The teenage son of Mexican émigrés living in Los Angeles dreams of becoming a film star.
- ☐ **MIDNIGHT FLIGHT** (TVM, 1997) *** Five, 2.10-3.45am. Thriller. An American woman sees someone sabotaging a plane in a German airport. **ALAN FRANK**

FILMFOUR

6.00 PAPER MOON (1973) Drama, starring Ryan O'Neal and Tatum O'Neal 6870294

8.00 GET REAL (1998) Two schoolboys secretly fall in love and coming out becomes the only option. Drama, starring Ben Silverstone 6882039

10.00 KIDS (1995) Story explaining the attitudes towards sex, drugs and morality among a group of New York City adolescents. Drama, starring Leo Fitzpatrick 3012720

11.40 GERRY (2002) Two friends go for a hike in Death Valley but lose their car and run low on water. Drama, starring Matt Damon 1373478

1.20 THE WERCKMEISTER HARMONIES (2000) Drama, starring Lars Rudolph 46296643

3.40 TWIN FALLS IDAHO (1998) Drama, starring Mark Polish 9623430

5.30 CLOSE



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E4

2.00 WITHOUT A TRACE See 6pm 63624213
3.00 THE SIMPLE LIFE Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie get a job at Sonic Burger but find it difficult to follow the rules 29867687
3.30 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS See 7pm 19575497
4.30 HOLLYOAKS Justin's letter to his mum didn't have the desired effect 99469836
5.00 FRIENDS See 8pm 29862132
5.30 FRIENDS See 8.30pm 99556316
6.00 WITHOUT A TRACE The team are called in when a school bus is hijacked by kidnappers demanding an increasing ransom 81185403
7.00 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS Lex locates Morgan Edge and gets him to admit to criminal dealings with Lionel. But before Lex can go to the authorities, someone tries to kill him 10386836
8.00 FRIENDS Will Emily forgive Ross before their honeymoon? 29868316
8.30 FRIENDS Rachel appoints Monica as her advisor in romance 29774923
9.00 RAMSAY'S KITCHEN NIGHTMARES First in a new four-part series. Gordon Ramsay meets Francesco Mattioli, the owner of The Walnut Tree Inn in South Wales, who is broke, chef-less and desperate to restore the restaurant's former reputation 10375720
10.00 SEX AND THE CITY Miranda runs into a hairstylist she is suing for age discrimination. Carrie discovers that Mr Big is dating a 26-year-old named Natasha 18774652
10.35 SEX AND THE CITY Samantha meets Mr Too Big. Charlotte becomes reacquainted with an equine friend 84201132
11.10 FOOL AROUND... WITH MY MUM Reality relationship show exploring how much guys can tell about a future girlfriend just by dating their mother 84981590
11.40 GREEN WING Caroline is broody but confused whether to put her trust in Guy or Mac. Martin gets his exam results 28661519
12.50 Hollyoaks 1.20 The Secret Life Of Us 2.10 Sex And The City 2.35 Sex And The City 3.10 The Simple Life 3.30 Fool Around... With My Mum 4.00 Close

BBC THREE

7.00 The 7 O'Clock News On BBC Three 7.30 Body Hits 8.00 Trauma 8.30 Little Angels 9.00 The Story Of Bohemian Rhapsody 10.00 EastEnders 10.30 Outlaws. Dunbar is tempted by a financial offer 11.00 Little Britain 11.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.00 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.30 David Ginnola: Secrets And Lies 1.30 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 2.00 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 2.30 Outlaws. Dunbar is tempted by a financial offer 3.00 Who Rules The Roost? 4.25 Close

SCI-FI

6.00 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 7.00 Teleshopping 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 The Lone Gunmen 12.00 Witchblade 1.00 The Pretender 2.00 Witch Hunt 3.00 The Outer Limits 4.00 Quantum Leap 5.00 Alien Abduction: The Mystery Unravels 6.00 Witchblade 7.00 The Pretender 8.00 Children Of Dune 9.35 The New Twilight Zone 10.00 Film: Hideaway (1995) Thriller 12.00 Film: Night Of The Demons II (1994) Horror 1.45 The Outer Limits 3.35 Ray Bradbury Theatre 4.05 Lexx 5.05-6.00 Tracker

BRAVO

9.00 CHiPs 10.00 Marlin Cup 11.00 Alias 12.00 Games Attack 12.30 Gamer TV 1.00 Street Crime 1.30 Dumbest Criminals 2.45 Seven Days 3.40 UFO 4.30 Games Attack 5.00 Knight Rider 7.00 Street Crime 7.30 Games Attack 8.00 Alias 9.00 Outrageous 9.30 Street Crime 10.00 Boogie Britain 10.30 Premiership Diaries 11.00 Sin Cities 11.30 World Of Pain 12.00 Laid Bare 12.30 Boogie Britain 1.00 Downloaded 1.30 Brides Abroad 2.00 Exposure 2.55 Excentriks 3.00 Close



KING OF THE KITCHEN: Gordon, E4, 9pm

UKTV GOLD

6.00 Neighbours 6.30 As Time Goes By 7.10 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum 7.50 Doctors 8.25 EastEnders 9.00 The Bill 10.00 Holby City 11.00 Casualty 12.00 Doctors 12.40 EastEnders 1.20 Keeping Up Appearances 2.00 BERGERAC See 6pm 4658671
3.00 THE BILL Meadows fails to hear a cry for help 2110213
4.00 HOLBY CITY Ric finds himself in hot water after performing drastic surgery on a budding teenage sportsman 2199720
5.00 CASUALTY A father threatens legal action against the hospital when his son is the victim of a misdiagnosis 078855
6.00 BERGERAC While Charlie gets an offer that is hard to refuse, Jim is hired by an American woman who wants her father to stand trial for her mother's murder 3660671
7.00 IT AIN'T HALF HOT, MUM The Concert Party are roped into testing a new anti-malaria drug 9752942
7.40 KEEPING UP APPEARANCES Hyacinth's visit to her favourite stately home goes wrong when her less-than-blue-blooded relatives tag along 9111652
8.20 AS TIME GOES BY Lionel is moving in with Jean but, as both have lived alone for some time, they will be able to cope with their new way of life? 4476841
9.00 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES An old schoolmate returns to Peckham to catch up with Del and his cronies 2122687
9.40 MY FAMILY BEN Has an extremely painful toothache and is wary of entrusting his dental needs to any other dentist 8928381
10.20 PORRIDGE Fletcher assumes the role of agony aunt to his fellow inmates 3830958
11.00 ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE Victor is called up for jury service and ends up as the man on trial 7053652

11.40 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES See 9pm 7228720
12.20 My Family 1.00 Porridge 1.35 One Foot In The Grave 2.10 Men Behaving Badly 2.40 The Bill 3.40 Where The Heart Is 4.40 As Time Goes By 5.15 Alistair McGowan's Big Impression 5.25-6.00 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum

ITV3

6.00 Survival 6.55 Peak Practice 7.50 Movies Now 8.00 Quincy, ME 8.55 Chicago Hope 9.50 Film 10.00 The Practice 10.55 LA Law 11.55 Survival 1.00 Quincy, ME 2.00 The Practice 3.00 Chicago Hope 3.55 LA Law 4.55 Peak Practice 6.00 The Practice 7.00 Outside Edge 7.30 Cadfael 9.00 Film: White Squall (1996) A group of boys, under the tutelage of a tough skipper, undertake a character-building voyage around the Caribbean which ends in tragedy. The white squall is the freak storm that lies in wait for the novice crew. Drama, starring Jeff Bridges and Ryan Phillippe 11.30 Cold Feet. David and Karen invite the other two couples to a black tie charity dinner. Feeling out of place, Jenny gets drunk and has a fist fight with David's boss before letting off a fire extinguisher 12.35 Chicago Hope 1.30 Film: White Squall (1996) Drama, starring Jeff Bridges 3.55 Teleshopping 5.55-6.00 ITV3 Nightscreen

EXPRESS SHOPPING CHANNEL

(SKY 636, NTL 637) 8.00 Express Shopping 5.00 Gold Gallery 6.00 Naturally Gold 6.00 Kitchen Gifts 8.00 Our Choice 9.00 Essential Underwear 10.00 Shoe Tailor Footwear 11.00 Gifts For Her 12.00 Close

TELEVISION X

(SKY 969) 10.00 Freeview 10.10 Be The Mask 10.30 The Omar Show 11.00 Freeview 11.10 C'me On My Face 11.30 Jane's World 11.50 Lubed 12.10 Filthy British Lesbos S1's 12.20 30 And Dirty 12.40 The Exhibitionist 1.00 Freeview 1.10 Toy With Me 1.30 Superdick 1.50 Fantasy Fix 2.10 Babysitter 4.10 Exotic Babes 5.30 Close

lifestyle telly

CHALLENGE

6.00 Teleshopping 7.00 Gladiators 8.00 The Crystal Maze 9.00 Fort Boyard 10.00 100% 10.30 TV Scrabble 11.00 Bruce's Price Is Right 11.30 Family Fortunes 12.00 Wheel Of Fortune 12.30 Catchphrase 1.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 2.00 The Krypton Factor 2.30 Bullseye 3.00 Celebrity TV Bloopers 4.00 The Crystal Maze 5.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 6.00 Takeshi's Castle 7.00 Swag 7.30 Ultimate Guinness World Records 8.00 The Krypton Factor 8.30 Bullseye 9.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 10.00 PacificPoker.com UK Open 12.00 Ultimate Guinness World Records 12.30 Swag 1.00 Takeshi's Castle 2.00 Bragging Rights 2.30 Wheel Of Fortune 3.00 Family Fortunes 3.30 House Of Games 4.00 House Of Games 4.30 The Krypton Factor 5.00 Bruce's Price Is Right 5.30-6.00 Teleshopping

HISTORY

8.00 Britain's Secret Army 8.30 Britain's War Heroes 9.00 Russia Land Of The Tsars 10.00 Winter Warriors 11.00 History's Raiders 12.00 Great Crimes And Trials 12.30 Infamous Murders 1.00 The Great Commanders 2.00 B-25 Down: Hunt For A Hero 3.00 Tech Effect 3.30 Command Decisions 4.00 Josef Mengele 5.00 History's Raiders 6.00 Sitzkrieg - The Phoney War 7.00 Rasputin 8.00 Inviting Disaster: Kursk. The tragedy that befell the Russian sub that shocked the world 9.00 Dead Men Talking 10.00 Cold Case Files 11.00 History's Raiders 12.00 Sex And The Swastika 1.00 FBI's Crime Lab 2.00 Close

DISCOVERY

6.00 Untamed Amazonia 7.00 Extreme Machines 8.00 Ultimate Cars 8.30 Working The Thames 9.00 Extreme Engineering 10.00 Salvage Squad 11.00 SAS: Training For The Jungle 12.00 The Reel Race 1.00 Time Team 2.00 Battlefield 3.00 Secret Submarine 4.00 21st Century War Machines 5.00 SAS: Training For The Jungle 6.00 The Reel Race 7.00 Time Team 8.00 American Chopper 9.00 Worst Jobs In History 10.00 Road To Berlin 10.30 Bloody Britain 11.00 Forensic Detectives 12.00 Trauma 1.00 Impact 2.00 Road To Berlin 2.30 Rogues Gallery 3.00 Worst Jobs In History 4.00 American Chopper 5.00-6.00 Time Team

LIVINGTV

6.00 Home Shopping 7.00 Tiny Living 9.00 Baby Hospital Live 12.00 Charmed 12.55 6th Sense With Colin Fry 1.25 Crossing Over With John Edward 1.50 Will & Grace 2.50 Everwood 3.45 According To Jim 4.15 Charmed 6.05 Will & Grace 7.00 Celebrity Snappers 7.30 Retail Therapy 8.00 Will & Grace 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 11.00 Moulin Rouge Girls 11.30 Moulin Rouge Girls 12.00 Film: Bram Stoker's Dracula (1992) Horror 2.20 All Grown Up: All Access 3.10 What Men Want 3.35 Cold Squad 4.30 Celebrity Extra 4.45 Ricki Lake 5.30-6.00 Home Shopping

pop telly

MTV

Including at 12.30 Cribbs 1.00 Laguna Beach 1.30 Newlyweds 2.00 Ashlee Simpson 2.30 Laguna Beach 3.00 MTV Mash 3.30 Making The Movie: Team America 4.00 Dismissed 4.30 Boiling Points 5.00 Newlyweds 5.30 America Or Bust 6.00 TRL 7.00 Making The Movie: Ocean's Twelve 7.30 Gwen Stefani: Making The Video 8.00 MTV ****s Up 9.00 Boiling Points 10.00 Pimp My Ride 10.30 Bournemouth 11.00 America Or Bust 11.30-12.00 Sanchez On Sanchez

VH-1

6.00 Breakfast 7.00 Astro Day 8.00 Favourite Xmas Song 9.00 One Hit Wonders 10.45 Battle Of Band Aids 11.00 Christmas Turkey 12.35 Battle Of Band Aids 12.55 Then And Now 1.00 Top 20 Number Ones Ever 3.00 Xmas Number Ones: 1980-2003 5.00 Christmas Turkey 6.35 Christmas Crackers 8.00 Favourite Xmas Song 9.00 Retrosexual 10.00 Sex, Lies And Beauties 11.00 X-Rated Videos 1.00 Matchmaker 3.00-6.00 Greatest Hits

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sporty telly

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE REVIEW 67126
7.00 TRANS WORLD SPORT 17768
8.00 THE RUGBY CLUB
 All the latest rugby union news and action 18497
9.00 RACING NEWS
 Racing reviews and previews 84768
9.30 BIG FIGHT COUNTDOWN 10671
10.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE REVIEW 55774
 Racing reviews and previews 69300
11.30 LIVE EURO TOUR GOLF
 Coverage of the second day's play in the Dunhill Championship at the Houghton Golf Club in Johannesburg 794381
2.30 BIG FIGHT COUNTDOWN 2836
3.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE REVIEW 44045
4.00 THE RUGBY CLUB
 Simon Lazenby, Stuart Barnes and Dewi Morris round up all the latest rugby union news and action 50652
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 1855
5.30 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT
 A global round-up of alternative sporting action 6652
6.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW
 A quirky look ahead to the weekend's sport with the Soccer AM team 77738
7.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW
 Preview of the weekend's action, with up-to-date team news 4519
7.30 LIVE FOOTBALL LEAGUE: WEST HAM UNITED V LEEDS
 UNITED Coverage of the Coca-Cola Championship from Upton Park. Kick-off at 7.45pm 673519
10.00 FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT: JEFF LACY V OMAR SHEIKA/JOSE LUIS CASTILLO V JOEL CASAMAYOR
 Jeff Lacy takes on Omar Sheika for the IBF super-middleweight title. Also on the bill, Jose Luis Castillo fights Joel Casamayor for the WBA light-welterweight title 43316
12.00 WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT: LATE NIGHT RAW
 Jim Ross and Jerry Lawler present the latest action from the WWE circuit 25782
2.00 FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT: JEFF LACY V OMAR SHEIKA/JOSE LUIS CASTILLO V JOEL CASAMAYOR
 Another chance to see tonight's fights 46459
4.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW 68879
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 45546
5.30 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT 25633

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00 AEROBICS: OZ STYLE 2050300 6.30
 England v South Africa 5514519 7.00 Aerobics: OZ Style 7678836 7.30
 Freeze Sports 7880671
8.00 Fishing: Carp Show 8695923 8.30 US Golf 8329671 11.30 Aerobics: Oz Style 3489836
12.00 The Rugby Club 9212403 1.00 World Pool Championship 2004
 5413836 3.00 Freeze Sports 8435478 3.30 NBA Action 9714720 4.00 Race World 3575687 5.00 NFL Weekly Review 8522958
6.00 Tight Lines 9218687
7.00 LIVE EUROPEAN RUGBY CUP: BOURGAIN V LEINSTER
 Kick-off at 7.30pm 2028584
10.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW 2362316
11.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 3576316
11.30 ICC CRICKET WORLD 5421855
12.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE: WEST HAM UNITED V LEEDS
 UNITED 9002099
1.30 EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF: DUNHILL CHAMPIONSHIP 5541546
 4.30-6.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE: WEST HAM UNITED V LEEDS
 UNITED 1899188

SKY SPORTS 3

7.00 WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIP 2004 26434316 9.00 UEFA Champions League Highlights 2004/5:
 Shakhtar Donetsk v Barcelona 49875872 9.30
 Valencia v Bremen 93927300 10.00 Inter Milan v Anderlecht 54316039 10.30 Paris Saint Germain v CSKA Moscow 43475836 11.00
 Panathinaikos v PSV Eindhoven 73014855
 11.30 Celtic v AC Milan 73015584 12.00 Arsenal v Rosenborg 94724328
12.30 Porto v Chelsea 40878836 1.00
 Fenerbahce v Man United 26437403 1.30 Liverpool v Olympiakos 41228377
2.00 Roma v Real Madrid 48380497 2.30 Bayer Leverkusen v Dynamo Kiev 88997958 3.00
 Deportivo v Monaco 48465132 3.30 Lyon v Sparta Prague 88992403
4.00 Ajax v Bayern Munich 88808010 4.30 Maccabi Tel Aviv v Juventus 88804294 5.00 Euro Tour Golf 88123403 8.00 Live US Golf 88041855 11.00
 Freeze 73006836 11.30
 Gillette Sport 54305923
12.00 European Rugby 94262256 1.30 Bridge 61170695 2.30 NFL Weekly 87294573 3.00 Close

EUROSPORT

7.30 WATTS 51958
8.00 FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - TOTAL 23465
9.00 FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - TOTAL 20132
10.00 LIVE FIELD HOCKEY: NETHERLANDS V GERMANY
 Coverage of the Champions Trophy event in Pakistan 20346
11.30 LIVE CURLING
 Action from the European Championships 2992861
12.15 LIVE BIATHLON WORLD CUP
 Featuring the women's sprint 514229
1.45 FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - TOTAL 919590
2.45 FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - TOTAL 837942
3.45 LIVE SWIMMING
 Coverage of the European Short Course Championships 981132
5.30 LIVE BOBSLEIGH WORLD CUP
 Coverage of the World Cup round at Igls in Austria 35710
6.30 FOOTBALL: TOP 24 CLUBS
 Show which counts down the top 24 clubs in Europe 2213
7.00 LIVE CURLING
 Action from the men's semi-finals 52687
9.00 FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WEEKEND 82749
10.00 YOZ XTREME
 Extreme sports magazine 63229
10.30 LG ACTION SPORTS
 Highlights from the extreme sports series which incorporates freestyle motocross and inline skating 54359
11.30 BRITISH EUROSPORT NEWS REPORT 388107
11.45 FOOTBALL: TOP 24 CLUBS 699584
12.15 BRITISH EUROSPORT NEWS REPORT 5802879
12.30 CLOSE

MUTV

Including at **6.00** Call Ole Gunnar Solskjaer 7.00
 Countdown 2 Kick-Off 8.00
 Barney And Redford: Re-united 8.30 Terrace Talk 9.00
 Red Hot News 9.30
 Ruud: Above The Law 10.00
 Call Ole Gunnar Solskjaer 11.00-12.00
 Countdown 2 Kick-Off

EXTREME

Including at **5.20** ASA Pro Tour 5.50 Exposure 6.25
 Goldie Lookin' Chain 6.30
 Gen/Ex 7.00 Up The Rebels 7.30 Throttle Junkies 8.00 Reunion 9.00
 Legends Of The Extreme 10.00 Gravity Games 2003 11.00-12.00
 Mike V's Greatest Hits

AT THE RACES: Racing news from 9am-1am



Charlie Catchpole

...on last night's telly

IMAGINE David Morrissey, alias Ripley Holden, the all-singing, all-dancing main attraction of **BLACKPOOL** (BBC1), appearing on *Celebrity Stars In Their Eyes*...

"Tonight, Matthew, I shall be Elvis Presley. Or Freddie Mercury, Smokey Robinson, Kenny Rogers, Ronnie Wood, or Diana Ross. Quite possibly, all of them."

Morrissey throws himself into the various songs that he lip-synchs in this remarkable roller-coaster drama with such gusto that he could turn himself into almost anyone he wanted to be.

The rest of the cast carry off their fantasy singing sequences with equal aplomb. Cold Feet's John Thomson, as Holden's put-

upon sidekick Terry, mimed to Alison Moyet's *Invisible* when Holden rounded beat him up for shopping him to the police ("I feel like I'm invisible, you treat me like I'm not really there and you don't really care"). If he had a shave and put on something loose-fitting, he'd look the part.

Crashing

As Ripley's wife Natalie (Sarah Parish) dithered about ditching him for DI Peter Carlisle, they both mimed to The Clash's hit *Should I Stay Or Should I Go* - which said as much as several pages of dialogue. Morrissey's business is crashing around him and his family falling

apart. But he can still manage the odd joke.

Describing Terry's girlfriend, Ripley said: "Figure like Halle Berry. Face like Chuck Berry."

And when a hooker mixed up in the murder case told him that his son Danny supplied her with drugs that he made in the school chemistry lab, Ripley replied: "Well, it's nice to know he's not wasting a good education."

You can go on as much as you like about the brilliance of contemporary American dramas such as *The Sopranos* and *Six Feet Under*, but *Blackpool* remains a triumph that is uniquely and inimitably British.

Can't wait for next week's finale.

titter telly

DISNEY

6.00 The Little Mermaid 6.25
 Aladdin 6.50 House Of Mouse 7.15 Lizzie McGuire 7.35 That's So Raven 8.00 That's So Raven 8.25 Dave The Barbarian 8.50 Kim Possible 9.15 Fillmore 9.40 Sabrina 10.05 The Proud Family 10.30 Art Attack 10.50 House Of Mouse 11.15 The Legend Of Tarzan 11.40 Lilo And Stitch 12.05 Recess 12.30 Kim Possible 1.20 Lizzie McGuire 1.45 That's So Raven 2.10 Teen Angel 2.30 The Proud Family 2.55 Art Attack 3.20 Fillmore 3.45 Recess 4.05 Recess 4.30 Kim Possible 5.00 Lizzie McGuire 5.30 That's So Raven 6.00 Like Family 6.30 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 7.00
FILM: The Pagemaster (1994)
 A shy schoolboy goes to a mysterious library and discovers a mural which comes to life and traps him in an animated literary world. Fantasy adventure, starring Macaulay Culkin 8.15 Recess 8.35 Kim Possible 9.05 Lizzie McGuire 9.30 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 10.00 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 10.30 Home Improvement 11.30 Boy Meets World 12.00 Close

PARAMOUNT

9.00 Kate And Allie 9.30
 Cheers 10.00 Married With Children 10.30 3rd Rock 11.00 Ned And Stacey 11.30 Dharma And Greg 12.00 M*A*S*H 1.00 3rd Rock 1.30 Ellen 2.00 Ally



HAT'S THAT, THEN: Johnny Depp and Mary Stuart Masterson, Paramount, 10.30pm

McBeal 3.00 Ned And Stacey 3.30 Everybody Loves Raymond 4.00 Soap 4.30 Minder 5.30 Becker 6.00 Frasier 6.30 Roseanne 7.00 M*A*S*H 8.00 Seinfeld 8.30 Becker 9.00 That 70s Show 9.30 Frasier 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Film: Benny And Joon (1993) After taking in an eccentric house guest, a man's life as the carer for his mentally ill sister is turned upside down as he discovers she is falling in love. Romantic comedy, starring Johnny Depp and Mary Stuart Masterson 12.30 Kate And Allie 1.00 Dharma And Greg 1.30 Ellen Show 2.00 Cheers 2.30 Taxi 3.00 Linc's 3.30 Shock Jock 4.00 Close

NICKELODEON

6.00 Arthur 6.30 Rugrats 7.00 SpongeBob SquarePants 7.30
 Nickelmas Advent Calendar 8.00 Drake And Josh 8.30 Mr Bean 9.00 As Told By Ginger 9.30 Arthur 10.30 CatDog 11.30 Rugrats 12.30 Mr Bean 1.30 Arthur 2.00 Rugrats 3.00 As Told By Ginger 3.30 SpongeBob

TROUBLE

7.00 Moesha 7.25
 Celebrity 7.30 70s Show 8.00 Two Guys 8.25 Clean 8.30 Wayans Bros 9.00 Date My Sister 9.30 Just Deal 9.55 Jesse 10.20 Embarrassing Parents 10.50 Malibu 11.20 Wayans Bros 11.50 High School 12.20 Fresh Prince 12.50 Clueless 1.15 Celebrity 1.20 70s Show 1.50 Malibu 2.20 Just Deal 2.45 Celebrity Extra 2.50 Date My Sister 3.20 High School 3.50 Celebrity 4.00 Fresh Prince 4.30 Run 5.00 One 5.30 Parkers 6.30 Clueless 6.55 Clean 7.00 Moesha 7.30 Date My Sister 8.00 Malibu 8.30 Spider-Man 9.00 Undergrads 9.30 Celebrity 9.35 Parkers 10.05 One 10.35 Run 11.05 Parkers 11.30 Eve 12.00 Grounded 12.30 Jesse 12.55 Celebrity 1.00 Close

TCM

3.05 Battleground (1949)
 War drama 5.20 Ride, Vaquero! (1953) Western, starring Robert Taylor 7.00 Where The Spies Are (1965) Comedy, starring David Niven 9.00 Excalibur (1981) Fantasy, starring Nigel Terry 11.40 The Ice Pirates (1984) Science fiction, starring Robert Ulrich 1.20 Once A Thief (1965) Crime drama

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TV'S FIRST LADY OF FOOTBALL ON LIFE & LOVE

When we get to see each other it's **REALLY EXCITING**

GORGEOUS Gabby Logan may have won over the male-dominated world of TV sport but she was unlucky with men off screen – until she met her future husband Kenny. Here she tells the Daily Star about how she finally found the love of her life...



SITTING PRETTY: But Gabby has no worries about ageing

by **EMMA BUSSEY**

WHILE Gabby Logan is being photographed in a sexy, slinky outfit, the studio cat decides to pee on her jumper.

Does she throw a diva tantrum? Nope. Gabby just laughs, sniffs the sleeve and screws up her nose.

She doesn't even ask for a clean top to go home in. Instead, she blasts the offending wet patch with a hairdryer, puts her jumper back on and joins the rest of the crew for lunch. What a gal!

Gabby, 31, appears care-free but despite a successful career as the face of ITV Sport – and being happily married to Scottish rugby star Kenny Logan – the past year has been difficult for her.

After 33 years of marriage, her footballing dad Terry Yorath and mum Christine, a property developer, broke up. The

split took its toll on the whole family.

"I don't live in a cocoon of loveliness – 2004 was an emotional year for me," she admits.

"My parents split in December 2003 and it's been difficult. It happened late in my life and it wasn't sudden, but it has been tough."

Heart

Gabby believes the death of her younger brother Daniel 12 years ago finally tore them apart.

Daniel died suddenly in 1992 from a rare heart condition. He was just 15, and life for the Yorath family was thrown into disarray.

"We were all very close when my brother died," Gabby recalls.

"Being the eldest child, I took on a supporting role.

The split wasn't a surprise. I thought my mother would be happier apart from my father, but it's hard for her."

Despite her parents' turmoil, Gabby reflects on the success of her own three-year marriage and is thankful that hers is stronger than ever.

"It's hard seeing my parents' relationship deteriorating," she says. "I love them both."

"My dad isn't great at talking things through. I look at Kenny and feel lucky we meet half way. Kenny's very talkative, which is fantastic, and we're a great match."

Gabby met Kenny six years ago and the pair have homes in London and Scotland, where Kenny plays for Glasgow Warriors. She's still

madly in love. "The way we are together is still the same and he does lovely things for me. He makes me feel so special."

"I knew I'd marry him. The first time I met him I was bowled over. Before that I had been celibate and given up on men."

"I'd been dating but didn't enjoy it and felt empty on days like Sundays as I had male friends but no

one special." After finding fame it was hard for Gabby to trust blokes.

"In my job you meet a certain kind of man. I'd go into the bar at Sky and then the ITV bar. If men looked at me I'd question if it was because they liked me or because they recognised me from TV."

But Kenny wasn't in awe of her. "He didn't know who I was when we met," she recalls. "He thought I was Gabby Roslin!"

It didn't take long for their romance to turn serious.

"We lived together for six months and got engaged after a year and a half. Marriage just gave us more certainty and it's

wonderful," she says. Her long hours at work and Kenny's career mean they have to plan their time together carefully.

"Relationships aren't easy and you have to put the effort in."

"Kenny and I aren't together every day and it's hard. I knew he wouldn't be fulfilled if he didn't play in Glasgow, which is why we live like this."

"But he's grateful to me for giving him this chance. I miss him when I leave Glasgow but we're good on the phone."

"Sometimes I have five flights in a week for foreign trips – it's great fun but tiring. The good thing is that when we see each other it's really exciting."

Success also means Gabby must deal with the pressures of fame.

"It isn't hard for me because I don't get involved in the celebrity circuit or go to showbiz

dos. I also don't put that pressure on myself to keep looking young. I feel fantastic right now and don't worry about ageing."

"I've lived a full life with lots of experiences and it would look silly if I did the Botox thing. I just look after myself and have a strict regime in terms of my lifestyle. I'm not leaving it to chance."

"I'm happy with my shape. I fluctuate by about two or three pounds but only I notice it. Kenny laughs at me when I say I'm bigger, but he loves the way I look!"

And he was very happy with last year's pics of her in QQ magazine.

"He loved them. I knew they would come out well and although I wasn't the cover girl – I think it was Jade Jagger, I couldn't compete with her!"

"It was the first time I'd done anything glamorous so I was really pleased."



CHECK out the full interview with Gabby in the January issue of Top Santé magazine, out tomorrow.

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Star FORUM

FROM RANTS TO JOKES, IT'S THE BIT YOU WRITE

joke bloke

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A GOLFER'S car broke down, so he dumped his clubs in the boot and went to get a bus home.

He sat next to an old lady on the bus, with his trouser pockets bulging with golf balls.

Noticing she kept looking at the bulges, he told her: "It's just golfballs."

She said: "Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?"

A. BERRY, Lincoln.
A MAN found a bottle on a beach, rubbed it and out popped a genie.

The genie said: "I will grant you three wishes on one condition - everything you ask for, all the MPs will get the same only double."

The man said: "I'd like £10million." The genie said: "OK, but MPs get £20m."

"Next, I'd like a new red

● WE pay £5 for each joke printed. Write to: Joke Bloke, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN

Ferrari." The genie said: "The MPs get two each."

The man said: "And for my final wish, I'd like to donate one of my kidneys."

JOHN FOTHERINGHAM, Falkirk, Stirlingshire.

Jokes by text...

Q: WHAT DID THE RAPING SANTA SAY TO THE 3 PROSTITUTES? A: HO, HO, HO. PETE, BURTON ON TRENT.

Q: WHAT DO U GET WEN U TAKE LSD WITH THE BIRTH CONTROL PILL? A: A TRIP WITHOUT THE KIDS. BRIAN G

Listen and laugh as your mate is wound up on 0905 235 8158
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£10 LETTER

IF Jacob's pay out a fortune to Joe Pasquale, they really must be crackers.

Nice guy, yes. But he's about as funny as those emus.

BEN BURTON, Dundee.
THE Pensions Secretary has ordered an inquiry into the computer crash at the Department Of Work And Pensions.

I wonder if he'll be so quick to inquire into why staff dealing with the unemployed are having to tell people that if they don't start a bank or Post Office account, they'll be suspended from benefits.

P. SMOLCIC, Mossblown, Ayrshire.

GORDON Brown hopes to be PM by pledging cash to families with children. Where does that leave those, like me, without kids? We seem to be paying through the nose for other families.

CHRIS BOSWELL, Oxford.

LETTERS EMAILS

THERE'S a tanner for the best letter each day, and a fiver for every one we print. Drop us a line at Readers' Letters, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN.
You can also fax us on 0870 7853 or email: StarLetters@dailystar.co.uk

SO Peter Andre thinks that everything he and Jordan want for their wedding day can be found at Disneyland.
I always knew it was a fairy-tale romance.

Mrs G. ASHTON, Carmarthen.

NEVER mind repeats of Christmas films, what about the year-round repeats of Only Fools and Horses? I groan hearing that title tune. Only fools keep on and on watching.

BILL TALLON, Ormskirk, Lancs.

TEXT MANIACS TEXT DSTAR TO 61616

Text DSTAR followed by a space, then your name and comment, and send to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your normal mobile operator cost.

- Yet again Paisley ruins the chance for power-sharing in N. Ireland. It's obvious that he was never committed to peace from the start. Mackey
- Well done Ian Paisley 4 pushing N.Ire bak 2 brink of war. Dont blame IRA this time. Tommy
- more pictures please of joe pasquale in his shorts. he is so cute. craig "squarker" veal, coneys hill
- cut burrell sum slack boy id like 2 c u eat a kangaroo testicle. he wasnt faking it coz u cud c da sweat pourin from his head. Sexy Dan 2 ryan
- whats all the fuss about those in the jungle eating kangaroo balls? I eat chicken balls from takaway. nice with sweet and sour! peter
- Pink floyd get your lazy arses back on stage. Your fans are suffering withdrawal symptoms. reefer man
- Natasha (one-hit-wonder) Bedfield looks like an extra from a 1940s gravy ad & her bro is even duller. Does she think its cool 2 look & act like a vicars daughter? Jay
- mike ur an idiot. money 4 band aid has helped thousands of starving african children. u obviously have ulterior motive not 2 put ur hand in ur pocket. Jakey
- Y DUZ SOUR CREAM HAVE A SELL BY DATE? MOGGIE
- CRAZY! A man banished from being alone with his son for 6 months for a smack. Am i the only one that thinks that is f***ing ridiculous? scott-staines
- On a cold morning, GMTV presenter Lorraine Kelly visits Emmerdale set and still looks sexy in short skirt! She can put me over her knee anytime. Lou
- Best Sophie Howard picture EVER. WHAT A BABE! Henry



Any chance of a pic of the fabulous Amy Nuttall? She's totally stunnin. AT

The only safe alcohol limit 4 drink & driving is NONE. Nothing. Zilch. Zero. Get a taxi u muppets. NEZ
davina macall looks like bryan adams. katie, bermondsey

- itv should listen 2 bbc saving cash by scrapping reality shows an all this celeb crap on tv and paying them stupid salaries. mic
- do angels really exist? Yes, THEY DO! How do i know? Because i met one, in disguise, today! glenn
- All I want for xmas is my 2 front teeth. Shane McGowan, Ireland
- Sophie anderton? seen bigger tits on a bird table! TITMAN
- Well said JAY! R ppl who r slagging off G4 the same ppl who voted 4 Busted? Enuf said! Mark HUDDS
- Y R BBC STILL SHOWING ENDERS ONIBUS? WASTE OF LICENCE FEE. PUT UR THINKING CAPS ON & TREAT US 2 SOME DECENT FILMS. BETTER STILL, AXE ENDERS & SHOW SOME CLASSIC BRITISH COMEDY INSTEAD. JENNY
- when you think about it, a bulldog is merely a tightly compressed greyhound. dezmeister
- Harry Hill is not funny get him. Linda Barker and Davina McCall off our screens 4 gud! Moto Ste
- what's i deal wit u goths? do u think u look cool wearing mummy's make up-nail varnish? Goths r losers! RICHIE
- Dont worry malcolm. i suffer depression 2 and nobody seems 2 care or wanna help me! LUDLOW, OXFORD
- a recent study found that native Americans have longest staying power and Scotsmen have the longest d'cks. GERONIMO McPHERSON
- Big J how hot is Kerry with dark hair? Brian must be a d'ck! Big J
- MAN WITH MORAL VALUES. yes u r old fashioned. hardly big lesbian scene on neighbours. Get a grip. we dont moan bout heterosexuals! JENNI

FOR legal reasons, we are unable to respond to text messages. If you have a query that needs a reply, please write to: Daily Star, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames St, London EC3R 6EN.

Justin Toper

The Star-gazer who knows your future

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your mind is bound to be doing somersaults, and it may be hard to concentrate on one thing. What you decide will remain part of your future. CELEBRATING TODAY: Cosby Show actress Raven, 19

- Aries** (Mar 21-Apr 20)
IF you weren't so rushed, you'd have no trouble making it on your own. Now, however, you may have to make some hastily-arranged plans, even if you leave certain threads or loose ends untied today. To see why you might have to dumb down your plans, call...
To receive daily texts send DSARI to 63333 0905 072 0099 (01) *
- Taurus** (Apr 21-May 21)
YOU won't be rewarded just for working hard. Instead, you will have to ask - even if it means putting your neck on the line. By rights, others will come up with what you are asking, but you may have to make some ethical choices, which isn't easy. To see how you can restore your position, call...
To receive daily texts send DSTAU to 63333 0905 072 0099 (02) *
- Gemini** (May 22-June 22)
YOU may admire the pluck of others, but what you are told sounds a little bit strong. There will be further dialogue nearer the weekend, when you should have a decent grasp of what is going on. To see why disbelief may be temporarily suspended, call...
To receive daily texts send DSGEM to 63333 0905 072 0099 (03) *
- Cancer** (June 23-July 23)
WHAT happens now could throw the proverbial spanner in the works. But it's not too scary. In some respects, you have tackled similar problems before. In fact once you cut through the red tape, you can deal with emotional realities. To see why you have the world at your fingertips, call...
To receive daily texts send DSCAN to 63333 0905 072 0099 (04) *
- Leo** (July 24-Aug 23)
LOVED ones may do nothing to alleviate your fears. In fact, they might even trample over your feelings - mostly for their own entertainment. But a recent conversation will ring true and you should be greatly excited. To see why what comes next is adult fantasy, call...
To receive daily texts send DSLEO to 63333 0905 072 0099 (05) *
- Virgo** (Aug 24-Sep 23)
AN improbable reunion could also take place before the weekend. Even so, it's doubtful that others agree with your way of life. No matter. Besides that, you may learn a family secret. Certainly this is a cause to throw a party. To see why your home is clearly your emotional centre, call...
To receive daily texts send DSVIR to 63333 0905 072 0099 (06) *
- Libra** (Sep 24-Oct 23)
INSTEAD of going on the defensive, others should seem more understanding. Of course, this doesn't explain why someone has chosen not to go along with your plans. But their ideas are a hundred times better. To see why a cause sounds noble, but it may be flawed, call...
To receive daily texts send DSLIB to 63333 0905 072 0099 (07) *
- Scorpio** (Oct 24-Nov 22)
YOU may be surprised by a deal. More so, because you thought someone wouldn't pay. Either way, you'll love the money - but what else do you love? In fact, looking out for others may prove costly. Still, it is not often you get offers like this. To see why you may need expert advice, call...
To receive daily texts send DSSCO to 63333 0905 072 0099 (08) *
- Sagittarius** (Nov 23-Dec 21)
THERE could be some awkward issues to deal with, and you might say something unintentionally. Despite this, you should manage to appeal to someone who can separate the wheat from the chaff. To see why your suggestions may help develop a relationship, call...
To receive daily texts send DSSAG to 63333 0905 072 0099 (09) *
- Capricorn** (Dec 22-Jan 20)
CHANCES are that what is blurted out before the weekend will make your imagination go into overdrive or muddle things further. But what you are presented with is something some Capricorns have been dying to hear. To see why, if you like secrets, you'll love what happens next, call...
To receive daily texts send DSCAP to 63333 0905 072 0099 (10) *
- Aquarius** (Jan 21-Feb 19)
YOU may experience moments of bewilderment. Nevertheless, you will have fun, even if you think that certain people are just playing around today. And you should be pleased by your findings. To find out why a recent course of action will come to a climax, call...
To receive daily texts send DSAQU to 63333 0905 072 0099 (11) *
- Pisces** (Feb 20-Mar 20)
YOU may have to suck up to the boss, or set up a meeting with them. But no one can say you are spineless. In fact, it's time to get off the fence. A casual conversation could also turn into a long chat about your future. More, you deserve some praise today. To find out where you stand, call...
To receive daily texts send DSPIS to 63333 0905 072 0099 (12) *

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calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline. Tarot cost £1.50 per 3 cards. 19p per text plus 15p. All calls are recorded. Response time 30-60s. All UK. 19p per text plus 15p.

WIN 10 TOY CARS

HOW'S this for brilliant value? Three Ferraris for £24.99. And that's because zooming out of the pitstop – and just in time for Christmas – toy maker Tomy has launched the Ferrari Compact Char-G Set, which is officially licensed by Ferrari themselves.

This speed-demon set features three of the most stylish car designs ever seen – the Testarossa, F40 and 512BB – naturally all in red.

These mini motors are just two-and-a-half-inches long and come with a pocket-sized wireless remote controller, which doubles as a charger, and takes just 45 seconds to work.

This stylish set has a distinctive Ferrari red box, making it a

really great Christmas gift. But before you rush off to buy one, I've got a terrific TEN to give away this week.

All you have to do to win one is simply phone **0905 028 0202** and leave your name and address.

Your call will cost just 25p from a BT landline, cheaper than a stamp. Alternatively,

TOMY

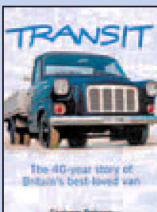
TOR followed by your name and details to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your usual network operator rates.

Winners will be chosen by midnight next Thursday, at random from all entries. Normal rules apply. The Char-G Set is also available from www.mailOrderExpress.com/tomy or 08700 12 90 90. Good luck folks.

WIN 5 GREAT BOOKS

BELIEVE it or not, the Ford Transit will soon be 40 years old, and the story of Britain's best-loved van is told in a new book published by Haynes, simply called *Transit*.

Written by Graham Robson, with a foreword by boxing legend Sir Henry Cooper, *Transit* is a fun book that's packed with photos and stories which make it a must for every white van man. And I've got five of these £16.99 books just waiting to be given away.



Want one? Well all you have to do is tell me an amusing Transit tale (no more than 50 words, please) or, if you haven't got one, why you most need this book.

Send your entries to: **TRANSIT**, George Fowler, Motoring Editor, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6EN, and I'll sort out five winners. Oh, and keep your stories clean, please. 'Cos I know what you lot are like. Good luck, folks.

MOTOR MOUTH

IMAGE RATING

HERE'S how the Skoda Octavia 2.0-litre diesel turbo fares image-wise.

REAR MIRROR MONSTER: Extremely elegant. New flush-fitting bumper, wider headlights and bigger grille give it that "move over, big car here" threat.

BACKSIDE BEAUTY: Not sensational, but not boring either. Just a well put together piece of work. Smart effort.

PLAYTIME PLEASER: Twin-zone climate control with separate settings for driver and passenger, trip computer, heated, electric, folding mirrors, rain-sensitive wipers, cruise control, eight-speaker stereo with six-CD autochanger.

NAUGHTY NIGGLES: Doors need to be slammed shut, otherwise you get a warning light.

TASTY TOUCHES: Auto-dimming rear view mirror, rear parking sensors, Mercedes-style door mirrors that leave a light on so you can see in the dark.

FAST OR LAST: Unbelievable mid-range power. A real scorcher.

WONGA WONDER: Fantastic value for money. But how long can Skoda keep this up?

WOULD AN ESSEX GIRL LIKE IT? Actually, Essex girls love their little Skodas. But a big shiny one? Well not as a car, anyway.

TURBO NUTTER: It may be diesel, but this Octavia is a rocket-ship



Skoda's got

SOMETIMES I think I've lost the plot. There I was driving around for a week in the new Skoda Octavia and as far as I was concerned it looked exactly the same as the old one.

Like all new cars these days it's apparently longer, wider, taller, smoother, more impressive and in the case of the new Octavia, say Skoda: "It produces a highly self-confident and ambitious impression." Hmmm.

So I parked it next to the "old" Octavia and I still couldn't tell the difference. Well that's it, I decided. It was my birthday during the week I drove it and as I was now a whole year older, I'd obviously turned overnight into some kind of blind, doddering, old git.

Then, the day before Skoda were due to take it back to the Czech Republic to be cleaned, or maybe just Milton Keynes where partners VW, Audi and Seat hatch their plans for Global Domination, I popped round to Steve's garage to fill it up. Surprisingly, Steve was there himself, actually doing some work. "Hey George," he said, "is that the new Octavia?"

Looked

"Yep, certainly is," I told him. He looked at it again. "Are you sure?" he asked.

"Yeah, course I'm sure. Look at the registration plate."

"Which one have you got?" he asked, filling it up with diesel.

"Er, it's a diesel... I hope."

"Yes I know that, but is it a 1.9 or a 2.0-litre turbo?"

"It's a 2-litre turbo."

"Bloody fast isn't it," said Steve.

"My mate's just bought one and I

SMART: The Skoda rear end



went out in it last week. It's incredible." Hurray! I was not, after all, a doddering old git. He couldn't tell the difference either.

However, it's fair enough to say that he was right about one thing. It is astonishingly quick.

Now a 0-62mph time of 9.6secs might not sound particularly impressive these days, but a top speed of 129mph gives you some idea of where this car's real strengths lie.

In mid-range, it is spectacular.

Groups of women who knit woolies for their little lambs will tell you that speed kills. Well it doesn't. It's people who drive too quickly, chat on their mobiles and

don't look where they're going who have accidents. In fact speed helps. Now there's a slogan that'll have them choking on their lemon-scented tea.

You see, the less time you're on the wrong side of the road, the less time you have to hit someone.

Nutter

A typical overtaking manoeuvre, say from 50 to 70mph, in third gear takes around 10 seconds.

The Octavia 2.0-litre diesel turbo achieves this in just over three seconds. That is blisteringly quick.

Just for fun, and on my newly-acquired private jet runway, the Octavia hit 60 to 90mph in six sec-

a newer, better car

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